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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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1-7-1927

## Justice (Vol. 9, Iss. 1)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 9, Iss. 1)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

Only righteousness  
I hold fast,  
and will not let  
it go."  
—Job 27:6

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Workers  
of the world  
united! You  
have nothing to  
lose but your  
chains."

Vol. IX. No. 1.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1927

PRICE 3 CENTS

## New Joint Board Installed

Registration Keeps Up at Top Speed

While chaos and despair were the order of the day in the camp of the ousted officials of the old Joint Board and their group of followers and strong arm supporters, the offices of the International and of the newly opened offices of the reorganized locals continued to hum with activity after the fall of the holiday period of the week-end was over.

Monday and Tuesday of this week were again big registration days in the Union. The registration halls—Bryant and Beethoven—were packed with large crowds who came to enroll in the reorganized locals. According to the figures given out by the International Office nearly 12,000 cloakmakers and dressmakers have registered with the reorganized locals, 2, 9, 22 and 35, in addition to the 18,000 workers already in the locals which never were under Communist domination—10, 23, 45, and 58. The examiners, Local 82, who for a time were supposed to have gone "Communist" and who during the past year have voted with the Communist

(Continued on Page 2)

## Agreement Renewed With Dress Jobbers' Association

Contract Expired on December 31—Settlement Headquarters Independent Firms Opened at Union Square Hotel—Tractors Affected by Settlement—List of Dress Firms Signed Up With Union Made Public by V. Hochman.

A settlement with the Wholesale Dress Manufacturers' Association, representing the jobbers in the dress industry, was virtually concluded this Wednesday afternoon, January 5, thru President Morris Sigman and Vice-President Julius Hochman. The contractors working for these jobbers employ 12,000 dressmakers. The settlement will provide for a renewal of the agreement which expired on December 31, 1926. Eight hundred contracting shops will be affected by the settlement. Signatures of both parties to the renewed agreement will probably be attached within a day.

The International Union, acting through Vice-President Julius Hochman, who is in charge of the dress situation in New York City and is manag-

ing the reorganized dress local, 22, announced that headquarters at the Union Square Hotel were opened this Thursday morning. President Sigman simultaneously announced that a conference with the Merchant Ladies' Garment Association, the organization of the cloak and suit jobbers, was arranged for this Thursday morning with a view toward reaching an agreement with this group of employers. It will be kept in mind that the cloak jobbers of the Merchant Association are today the only factor in the cloak industry who are still without an agreement with the Union.

Warn Against Attempts of Communists to Plunge Dress Industry Into Strike

In announcing the virtual settlement with the dress jobbers, President Sigman stated that the Communist efforts being made to precipitate a general strike in the dress industry are

(Continued on Page 2)

## I.L.G.W.U. Shuns Moscow Clothing Congress

Communist International Directs Campaign of Destruction Against our Movement in U. S.

Communist organizations, inspired and directed by the central organization in Moscow, have waged a campaign of havoc and destruction within the cloak and dress unions affiliated with the International Union. The General Executive Board refused in a letter dated January 4, 1927, to designate delegates to the convention of the Needle Trades Workers' Union of Russia to be held in Moscow on April 7, 1927. The invitation from the Russian organization invited participation for the sake of "strengthening ties of friendship," and was signed by M. Sokolinsky, chairman, and J. Khramov, secretary.

In declining the invitation, President Morris Sigman pointed out that it has nothing but good feelings for the Russian garment workers. "The International Union," the reply stated, "will always be found ready, whenever called upon, to help the garment and clothing workers of Russia materially and morally, but not at the expense of the betterment of their economic lot and their work conditions." The I. L. G. W. U. refuses, however, to take part

(Continued on Page 2)

## Communist "Peace" Camouflage Exposed

"Impartial" Shop-Chairmen's Committee Hand-Picked By Communists—"Peace" Meeting Degenerates Into A Bedlam of Abuse of International—Threaten to Form Opposition Union.

If anyone among the cloakmakers and dressmakers doubted that the so-called peace committee of 50 shop chairmen was anything but a Communist subterfuge, and the cry for peace was anything but a Communist manoeuvre to cover up their treason and defeat, the meeting this Monday evening, January 3, at the Communist hall, Manhattan Lyceum, called ostensibly by this "peace" group, must have disabused their minds of every vestige of disbelief. It was obvious even to the naked eye that it was simply and purely a Communist bluff and swindle engineered for the purpose of creating tumult and disunion in the ranks of the cloak and dress makers.

Like every other Communist affair, the meeting occupied itself with a bombardment of meaningless phrases and with mud-throwing upon the International Union and its leaders. It was arranged not by "impartial peace-makers" but by the ousted Communist ex-officials of the former Joint Board, who were the chief actors at the meeting, did most of the abusive talking, and prepared in advance the resolution condemning the International.

Resolute to Attack the International! The resolution adopted by these peace-makers does not speak of "peace" but attempt to besmirch the International Union, refers to some mysterious "expulsions" and at once finds the international guilty of this "crime", winding up with an ultimatum to the effect that in the event the International Union fails to make peace with them in the course of the next 48 hours, they, the Communists, would form an "opposition union." In order to put a finishing touch on their comedy, the Communist added to the "50

cloak shop chairmen" an additional group of "25 dress shop chairladies" as a council that would organize such an opposition union.

The out and out Communist character of the meeting will no doubt have a sobering effect on such of the cloakmakers and dressmakers who may still have thought that this "peace" cry is

(Continued on Page 3)

## Communist-Led Gangs Assail Cloakmakers

25 Rowdies Led by Isidore Moskowitz, Vice-Chairman of the Defunct Joint Board's "Picket" Committee, Assault Two Cloakmakers At 7th Avenue and 39th Street—Victims Taken to New York Hospital—Moskowitz Arrested On Charge of Felonious Assault and Held For Trial.

The Communists showed their true colors this Tuesday morning, January 4, when several mobs led by them made atrocious assaults upon cloakmakers on their way to work in the central garment district.

One group of rowdies, alleged to be under the direction of Isidore Moskowitz, Communist vice-chairman of the "picket" committee of the Joint Board, attacked two cloakmakers on their way to work at 7th Avenue and 39th Street and beat them up in murderous fashion. The two cloakmakers are Louis Katz, member of Local 52, and Nicholas Koria, member of Local 48. Both were attended to in the New York Hospital. A third cloakmaker, by name Joseph Lapidus, was also attacked by the Communist hooligans but managed to escape.

The attack upon these two cloakmakers created a panic among the

crowds of workers streaming to the factories, who scattered in all directions. Later in the day, another mob of Communist rowdies attacked a group

(Continued on Page 2)

## Philadelphia Dressmakers In Drive on Open Shops

Unionized Industry Chief Aim of Campaign

Opening up with an inspiring mass meeting, at which three Vice-presidents of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union were the principal speakers, the campaign to organize the Philadelphia dressmakers in anticipation of expiration of agreements February 15 was launched with full force last Wednesday at the Labor Institute, 18 Locust Street.

The 48 hour fire-day week and the elimination of open shop conditions in 50 per cent of the Philadelphia dress trade were the slogans raised at the enthusiastic gathering of 600. Vice-presidents Elias Weisberg, and Mollie Friedman and Organizer Elsie Gluck stirred the audience to the highest pitch of enthusiasm with their recital

(Continued on Page 2)

## Dress Agreement Renewed

(Continued from Page 1)

less the manufacturers agree to do business with these deposed officials. "The Communist vandals, who thrive upon the misery, suffering and starvation of the workers, are now attempting to perpetrate upon the dress makers the same atrocity they have forced upon the clockmakers. Knowing very well that the dress season has not yet begun and that the dress-makers are anxious to retain their union, reach an agreement with the employers and continue to work in

union shops under union conditions. The Communists are trying to impose a general strike upon the dress industry, which, under present conditions, will inevitably bring ruin and starvation to the workers and complete destruction to the organization. "We, therefore, call upon all dress-makers to pay no attention to any provocation on the part of the Communists, and remain at work. Wait for a call from the International. As soon as agreements will be about to be concluded, we will call upon our membership to ratify such contracts."

### DRESS SHOPS WHICH SIGNED NEW AGREEMENTS

Adolph Lawrence, 220 West 28th St.  
Rosa Gershel Corp., 494—7th Avenue  
Abrams Cost, 265 West 39th Street  
Fajardo Gown, 550—7th Avenue  
Weiner & Feig, 246 West 38th Street  
Wine Handbags, 521—7th Avenue  
Weiner & Kugel, 237 West 37th Street  
Kugel & Drexler, 237 West 35th Street  
Benzkowsky Bros., 550—7th Avenue  
J. Zimmerman, 550—7th Avenue  
Kaufman Gown, 99 Madison Avenue  
Sunshine & Heartstein, 4 West 32nd St.  
Flon Bros. & Bobrowsky, 263 W. 38 St.  
Caron Bros., 247 West 28th Street  
Harmony Dress Co., 131 West 35th St.  
La. Das Dress, 240 West 35th Street  
Supreme Dress, 535—5th Avenue  
Graceline Dress, 235 West 26th Street  
Cotler & Zernitsky, 1285 Broadway  
Kapp Bros., 36 West 28th Street  
Weiner & Berman, 86 West 28th Street  
Harwell Dress, 143 West 28th Street  
Ruffolo Bros., 50 West 29th Street  
Gayety Dress, 142 West 36th Street

Princeton Frock, 270 West 28th Street  
Finer & Duffie, 215 West 46th Street  
Tiffany Cost, 29 West 19th Street  
Gordon & Rothman, 141 West 24th St.  
Max Smith, 145 West 24th Street  
Abe Katz, 145 Madison Avenue  
La Rosette Dress, 118 W. 22th St.  
Royal Cost, 110 West 27th Street  
Lila Dress, 561 West 36th Street  
Sparber & Kritchman, 194 West 29 St.  
Jacob L. Katz Dress,  
S. & C. Dress, 159 West 25th Street  
Rosenberg & Radomsky, 270 West 39 St.  
Flower Dress, 133 West 19th Street  
Hingler & Meiselman, 28 W. 35th St.  
Norman Dress, 290 West 35th Street  
S. Prisman, 257 West 37th Street  
Blau Dress, 124 West 26th Street  
Raebert Dress, 204 West 30th Street  
S. Tedesco & Co., 236 West 24th Street  
Moresale Dress Co., Inc., 49 W. 25 St.  
B. Pronin & Co., 142 West 36th Street  
Capitol Dress, 209 West 36th Street  
Charnes Bros., 235 West 36th Street

## Provisional Joint Board Installed

(Continued from Page 1)  
The meeting of the Joint Board, held a members meeting last Monday, January 3, and repudiated the ex-Communists, pledging allegiance to the International Union and calling upon their executive board to leave the sinking outfit of the ousted officers.

New Joint Board Installed: Board of Directors Chosen

The installation of the new provisional Joint Board of the International cloak and dress locals took place also on the same evening, Monday, January 3, in Beethoven Hall, in a solemn atmosphere that reminded some of the old delegates of the enthusiastic days of the great cloak awakening of 1910. Nicholas Kurzman of Local 9 was elected as chairman of the Joint Board; B. Kaplan of Local 2 was chosen first vice-chairman, in addition to a full board of directors. All other regular committees were elected.

President Sigman delivered the induction address and called upon the delegates to put their shoulders to the wheel and to rebuild the union on a sound basis out of the wreck which the Communists left in their wake.

Following is a list of the elected board of directors and of the standing committees:

**Board of Directors**  
B. Kaplan, Local 2, Chairman  
H. Galish, Local 2  
R. Sherman, Local 3  
L. Bauer, Local 10  
J. Ark, Local 21  
N. Margulies, Local 22

M. Kinsky, Local 23  
L. Lyonsen, Local 4  
J. Woltry, Local 45  
L. Heit, Local 82  
J. Egitte, Local 43

**Finance Committee**  
L. Mallesani, Local 45, Chairman  
B. Kaplan, Local 2  
Ph. Rhein, Local 9  
L. Fohrer, Local 10  
Saula Farber, Local 22  
L. Frumchick, Local 23  
L. Reif, Local 25  
S. Salerno, Local 35

**Appeal Committee**  
L. Friend, Chairman  
S. Fried, Local 2  
M. Wisnitsky, Local 3  
L. Berman, Local 9  
J. Penkin, Local 10  
M. Dashkov, Local 22  
M. Lansberg, Local 23  
J. Spina, Local 45  
C. Barone, Local 49

**Grievance Committee**  
J. Bushkin, Chairman  
M. Guterson, Local 2  
M. Bernstein, Local 3  
M. Portnoy, Local 9  
L. Portnoy, Local 9  
B. Gordin, Local 10  
M. Reiss, Local 22  
B. Partrowitz, Local 35  
G. Catania, Local 45  
L. Yatter, Local 82  
O. Miranda, Local 33

## Philadelphia Dressmakers In Big Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

set conditions in the shops and the union's determination to improve the standards of living and work. The Labor Institute meeting is the forerunner of a series of meetings and intensive organization activity to present a solid front to all groups of employers in the market when the new demands are presented.

Five thousand dressmakers are employed in 200 shops in the Philadelphia market. With 70 of these shops, employing about half of the workers, the union has independent agreements expiring February 15. Instead of the present 44 hour week, the union will seek 40 hour five-day week, with 44 hours' pay. The union also demands the creation of a Joint Board of Sanitary Control, the maintenance of which is to be borne by both employers and employees; shop representation and the right to shop meetings and no discharge without review.

The campaign is also being extended to enroll workers in non-union shops. In contrast to the present 44 hour week in union shops from 48 to 52 hours is the general rule in the open shops. The response of the American and Negro girls in the non-union shops to the union call is extremely gratifying. Vice-president Reissberg, who is also manager of Dressmakers' Union Local 50, Philadelphia, declared.

A resolution, supporting the call of the G. E. U. of the International, was adopted, declaring:

"We, the Waist and Dressmakers, members of Local No. 50 of Philadelphia, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, assembled in a meeting on December 29, 1926 at the Labor Institute, decided to adopt the following resolution:

"Whereas: The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, our parent body, at its last General Executive Board meeting decided to carry on an organization campaign in the waist and dress market of Philadelphia with the aim of establishing humane working conditions, through the means of collective bargaining and

Whereas: There is a number of employers in the waist and dress industry who operate their shops under inferior working conditions and thus undermine every semblance of American standards of living and thus help to create unscrupulous competition between one shop and another and between worker and worker, be it therefore

"Resolved: That we, the members of Local 50, fully endorse the stand taken by our General Executive Board and by our Local Executive Board, and be it further

"Resolved: That we pledge our full cooperation in the coming campaign and we will stand loyally and undividedly by our International in its effort to gain better working conditions through peaceful means if possible and through a general strike if necessary."

## International Rejects Moscow Invitation

(Continued from Page 1)

in the deliberation of an organization which is linked to a central body that is carrying on a malicious campaign of hatred and disruption against it, the letter stated. The reply in full follows:

Letter to Moscow Union

January 4, 1927.

Central Executive Committee,  
Needle Trades Workers' Union.  
M. Sokolinsky, Chairman.  
J. Khranov, Secretary.  
Solanka, 12, Moscow, Russia.

Dear Sirs and Brothers:  
Replying to your invitation extended to the General Executive Board of our Union to attend the 8th congress of your union in Moscow on the 7th of April, 1927, we wish to state the following:

1. Our organization has nothing but good feelings for the needle workers of Russia. It is our sincere hope that their Union may grow continually in power and acquire full freedom for trade union activity for the protection of their economic interests in both State and private factories.

2. Our members, and our International Union will always be found ready, whenever called upon, to help the garment and clothing workers of Russia, materially and morally, in every struggle for the betterment of

their economic lot and their work conditions.

3. Our International Union will not take part in your congress, for the reason that your union is affiliated with and is a close part of the Red Trade Union International, which in turn is affiliated with the Communist Internationale, a political organization that has, for several years past, been waging a campaign of malice, calumny and destruction against our International Union, through its American subsidiary organizations, and has nearly succeeded in destroying some of our strongest unions in New York City.

4. Right at this hour, we are engaged in a struggle to eliminate disastrous Communist domination from the New York cloak and dress unions, which has resulted in their recent loss of a general strike after 25 weeks of striking and in the loss of \$30,000,000 in wages to our members. This disaster is the immediate work of the local Communist organization approved and directed by the Moscow central body with which you are affiliated. The damage caused by this Communist political invasion of our trade union will take years to repair, and to this task our International Union is now devoting itself with all its energy and resources, aided by the entire organized workers' movement of our country.

Very earnestly yours,  
GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD  
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
MORRIS SIGMAN, President.

H. ROGOFF will start a course on "Civilization in America" this Wednesday, January 12, 8:30 p. m. in P. S. 77, Lexington Avenue and 165th Street, Room 566. Admission free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

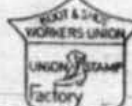
DR. C. LIEBERMAN will start a course on "Literature and Life" this Friday, January 7 at 8 p. m. in McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx.  
Admissions free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

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COLLIS LOVELL  
General President  
CHARLES L. BAINE  
General Secretary-Treasurer





## 'Peace' Camouflage Exposed

(Continued from Page 1)

an impartial movement and that it is not wholly and entirely a smoke screen raised by the ex-officials of the former Joint Board in a dying effort to save themselves from a total eclipse in the cloak and dress unions.

### "Peace" Manoeuvres Will Deceive No One, Says President Sigman

In rejecting the invitation to attend the "peace meeting" on Tuesday, President Morris Sigman characterized the efforts of the so-called shop-chairmen's committee as a "purely Communist venture that will deceive no one." "The committee," Brother Sigman continued, "was hand picked at a meeting called last week by Communist leaders of the defunct Joint Board. Posing as an impartial group to reconcile the Communist union wreckers, whose conduct of the disastrous 25 weeks' strike was overwhelmingly repudiated by the rank and file, this committee reveals its character by a cursory examination of its officials. Prominent among them is Louis Kleinman, secretary, who conducted a non-union shop in our industry, which proved a thorn in our side and cost the union large sums of money in an effort to unionize it. Kleinman, in addition to being a former non-union employer, is also a member of the Communist Party. A Mr. Reichel, head of the committee's press committee, is a well-known Communist. Others among

the officials are either members of the Communist Party or followers. It is farcical to try to give the impression that a committee so constituted and so selected can pose as impartial in this struggle to eliminate the disruptive elements from our union.

"No doubt there are some honest cloak shop chairmen on the committee, but I think this crisis growing out of the Communist fiasco, the regularly constituted organization, the International Union, and its procedure must determine, rather than any irresponsible committee, the conduct of the union's internal affairs. As against the fake cries of impartial elections of the Communists, the registration of 2,000 cloakmakers from formerly Communist-controlled locals with the International Union and the solid support of the 16,000 cloakmakers in non-Communist locals, a total of 28,000 workers to date, is the effective method of determining whether our members stand with the International and its American trades union principles, or with the deposed Communists and their masters in Moscow and in Chicago. There is a total of 35,000 cloakmakers in the trade. The new Joint Board, succeeding the deposed Board, is being installed this week and it will fix the final date by which those cloak and dress makers seeking to align themselves with the International must register."

## Examiners Line Up with International

(Continued from Page 1)

more proved when, at a meeting of examiners called by the Communists for the same evening, with the object of disrupting the regular meeting of Local 82, only 27 persons put in an appearance, of which, according to Secretary Rosenblatt of that local, only 17 are listed as designers and the other are unknown as members of the craft.

The resolution adopted by the examiners reads as follows:

### Resolution

"WHEREAS, at a meeting held on December 16, our members had decided to stand with the International Union and to repudiate the leaders who had betrayed and misled our strike, and

"WHEREAS, this betrayal of our interests was caused by the slavish adherence of these former leaders to the Communist Party domination, and

"WHEREAS, an irresponsible group parading as an "executive board" of Local 82 is still attempting to call meetings in the name of our local, be it

"RESOLVED that at a special meeting on January 2, 1937, at 221 East 14th Street, we reaffirm our allegiance to the I. L. G. W. U., and condemn the group that is endeavoring to disrupt our union, and express our full

confidence to the directing heads of our International organization and to the officially recognized officers of our local who are endeavoring to lead it on a true trade-union basis.

"Long live Local 82, I. L. G. W. U.!

"Long live our International Union!"

## Cloakmakers Beaten

(Continued from Page 1)

of cloakmakers who were distributing some anti-Communist literature in the garment district. A half dozen men were set upon and their papers were torn to shreds.

When informed of these attacks, President Sigman characterized them as "mad acts of despair," declaring that the Communists grown desperate with their loss of power in the Union are using every method of violence to intimidate the workers. "The Communist pogrom-makers," he added, "are aware that their end in our Union is at hand, that their fake peace proposals are a fiasco, but being unable to leave like men they are trying to make an exit like hoodlums and rowdies. They will, however, fail in this as they failed in all their former scandalous maneuvers. The cloakmakers will not be intimidated."

## CLOAKMAKERS REGISTER!

ALL CLOAKMAKERS OF LOCAL 2, 3, 9, 23, 35, 48, AND 52 MUST REGISTER AND RECEIVE OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL UNION BOOKS AND WORKING CARDS

REGISTRATION BEGINS WED., DEC. 22 and thereafter—hours 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.

### REGISTRATION OFFICES:

BEETHOVEN HALL — 210 EAST 5th STREET  
(All shops up to and including 30th St.)

BRYANT HALL — 725—6th AVENUE (at 42nd St.)  
(All shops above 30th Street and all Avenues)

Official International Union Books will be issued as follows:

Members holding Pink Books will receive new Books upon payment of Fifty (50c) Cents (35c for a stamp and 15c for the Book.)

Those holding any other colored Books will receive New Books upon payment of Five (\$5.00) Dollars (which covers all arrears.)

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INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION  
PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF CLOAKMAKERS

MORRIS SIGMAN, President

## Local 62 Ready To Negotiate New Agreement with Employers

### Committees Formed in Non-Union Shops

For some months past, the White Goods Workers' Union, Local 62, has been conducting an organization campaign in an effort to organize the non-union shops in the underwear trade, and the results are quite gratifying. The Union has succeeded in winning the interest of a great many girls working in non-union shops and in some cases, has even been able to establish committees in the shops to keep the office in touch with the non-union workers. These committees were organized through the efforts of the organization committee and promise to be of great help in the work of organizing the White Goods Workers. This week a special circular has been sent to all the members of the Union, calling them to greater activity in the union shops and in the non-union shops, and urging them to pay their debts to the local.

### Prepares for New Contract

On February 1st, the agreement between the Union and the employers

expires and the office of the Union is busy making preparations to negotiate for a new contract. The Executive Board of the local is at present working out the new demands which are to be presented to the employer's association, as well as to the independent houses. Preparations are also being made for the calling of a meeting of the Organization Committee some time next week, and for a general membership meeting, as soon as the workers will begin working full time.

In the meantime, the Union is rallying upon every member of the White Goods Workers' Local 62 to help in the important work which must be done at the present moment. The members are urged to meet their debts to the Union and thus help it to be prepared for any emergency. A special appeal is being made to all members who are at present employed in non-union shops, to get in touch with the office of the Union.

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## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Office: 3 West 14th Street, New York; N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President

A. BAROFF, Secretary Treasurer

MAX D. DANISH, Editor

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# JUSTICE

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Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
Office: 3 West 18th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President

A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer

MAX D. DANISH, Editor

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## EDITORIALS

1926-1927

The cloakmakers of New York City will not so easily forget the year that has just gone into eternity—1926.

Not since 1910, the year that saw the first appearance of the great cloakmakers' organization on the industrial arena, after a strike that lifted 50,000 men and women out of the thrall of the sweat shop, did any single year affect so deeply the lives of our workers. It was a year filled with anguish and misery, a year of blasted hopes and crushing disappointments, a year which saw the defeat of the cloakmakers in a general strike—for the first time in seventeen years.

But 1926 also brought to the cloakmakers its reward, for it has emancipated their Union from the yoke of the Communist charlatans, the directors of the ill-fated strike. Its closing weeks saw the masses of the cloakmakers and dressmakers of New York turning upon these misleaders and casting them out of office, which they had debauched and prostituted for their party schemes and aims.

1926 found our Union in New York under the rule of the Communist politicians who dominated every office of importance in a majority of the cloak and dress locals and controlled the Joint Board. Under the cloak of a "peace" arrangement, which was supposed to bring a semblance of tolerance in the Union, these officials, acting as mere puppets in the hands of their Communist bosses, have instituted a reign of terror in the organization, making it impossible for anyone but a docile adherent of their party or a dishonest lick-spittle and time-server, to lift a head or to utter a word at union meetings.

They had split our house wide apart by venomous and foul-mouthed propaganda on the theory that an abundance of mud persistently slung at the cleanest of characters is bound to leave a blemish and a stench in the end. Rule or ruin became their daily policy after they had become firmly entrenched in their jobs. For tolerance and freedom of discussion, they have substituted dictatorial methods and the strong-arm. They packed the meetings with henchmen, stuffed ballot boxes to "win" elections, and have fostered gangsterism which the International organization has successfully combatted and driven out of the Union—all for the glory of the Communist Party and for the advancement of its wild and fantastic theories!

In 1926, however, the retribution for this mad policy of divide and conquer came swift and merciless. The Communist "boys" in the Cloakmakers' Union, drunk with power, had forgot that the great majority of the cloakmakers were not Communists. They had forgot, under the hypnotic influence of their Chicago tutors, that catch-words like "no arbitration," "no class collaboration" that may sound terribly attractive to a hot-head minority are mere bubbles when applied to the hard realities of American industrial life. And when the fateful strike of their design and making, the great cloakmakers' tragedy of 1926, took place, these bubbles burst in rapid succession dragging down with them not only gains and work standards for which the workers in the cloak industry had toiled many years to achieve but their own house of cards, their own "dictatorship" which, through demagoguery and hypocrisy, they had foisted upon the cloakmakers' and dressmakers' organizations.

The Communist leadership of the cloak strike, for which the cloakmakers paid so heavily in treasure, sufferings and morale, will forever stand out in the annals of the labor movement as an example of monumental blundering, unparalleled incapacity, conceived in purpose alien to the true interests of the workers and crowned with the inevitable award of defeat.

That much for the achievements of Communist rule in the cloak and dressmakers' organization, that much for their weird promises and dismal performances in the memorable year of 1926.

But what about the future, what about the new year that is dawning upon us, what has it in store for our workers, for the masses who had paid so dearly for the Communist "experiment" in the past year and a half?

The new year begins under wonderful auspices. The cloakmakers and the dressmakers, in their hour of distress, when the clouds above their heads seemed darkest, have broken away from these misleaders and turned for counsel and leadership to their International Union. And now, in their reorganized locals, they are beginning an era of reconstruction that will repair the frightful damage done by the Communists and will return the Union back into their own keeping.

The new year should be a year of building and of strengthening our organization. 1926 was one of the most unfortunate years in the lives of our workers, but out of this misery our workers

have learned a bitter lesson that will stand them in good stead in the future.

1927 will be a year of hard work for the cloakmakers and dressmakers, but a year, nevertheless, of fruitful, hopeful activity. We all have but one goal in view—we must strain all our energies to put back our Union in the high place it had for a decade occupied in the American labor movement, in the place it was before the Communist got hold of it and well-nigh ruined it.

The great task ahead is—to complete the registration, the mass enrollment of all our workers in the reorganized locals. This must be done without delay and without regard to the insidious underhand work of the Communist remnant which is still trying to obstruct the work of rehabilitation undertaken by the International Union. And the sooner this preliminary job is done, the faster will the Union become equipped to take full charge of defending the interests of the workers in the shops during the coming spring season which already is at the door.

### THE NEW "PEACEMAKERS"

No better proof of defeat and demoralization could have come from the Communist camp than their repeated cries for "peace" and "reconciliation" during the past few days.

We had occasion, last week, to comment on the scream for "elections" which had burst forth from the ousted officials of the former Joint Board. Of a sudden, the little band of Communist "dictators", finding themselves hurled headlong by the cloakmakers out of their seats of power, have overnight become adherents of "democracy" and started an animated propaganda for elections.

This "democratic" feeler sent out by the Communists did not survive the chilly reception which it met among the rank and file of the workers. The New York cloakmakers rejected this Communist overture with derision, apparently remembering that only a few weeks ago the same Communist group had viciously attacked the very suggestion of an election as a "Sigman scheme" and as a dark "counter-revolutionary" plot.

And now, with their "election" proposal definitely discarded as an abortive fake, the defeated band of Communists, still hopeful of somehow trapping the cloakmakers into another snare, is sounding another call for "peace".

For this occasion, they have dressed up, a few days ago, a group of shop chairmen who are still willing to do their bidding, as "impartial chairmen" for the rather obvious purpose of making a sentimental appeal to the workers for "peace and reconciliation" and to split the wall of opposition that is towering above them on all sides.

Of course, this manoeuvre is a pure Communist venture. It is in line with customary Communist tactics wherever they have been beaten. This suit for peace of a wolf in a sheepskin will deceive no one; they are on their hind legs and all they are seeking is to retain, by deception, a remnant of their former power. To begin with, their shop-chairmen's committee was hand-picked at a meeting called last week by Communist ex-officials of the defunct Joint Board, and even a cursory examination of its personnel reveals their thorough Communist character. The leading members of this "impartial" committee, for instance, are either Communist Party members or willing followers of the Communist "league". And while there may be on this committee a few honest cloak chairmen, it would be farcical to even assume that a committee so constructed and so selected could pose as impartial in this struggle to eliminate the disruptive elements from our Union.

Secondly, and this is most important, the New York cloakmakers, by this time, know a little about Communism and its ways in the trade union movement. They have learned a few lessons in Communist strategy and have paid a good price for it. Their memory on Communist "peace" proposals is especially good, and they well remember what ruination and chaos there have followed in their Union after the sham peace which the Communists have inaugurated in it some sixteen months ago.

In this crisis growing out of the Communist fiasco, the cloakmakers, therefore, will recognize no one but their regularly-constituted organization, the International Union. They will turn a deaf ear to any irresponsible committee that is willing to play the Communist game crying "peace, peace", while peace is not in their hearts. The cloakmakers are sure enough for peace in our organization, and they have proved that they are ready to make sacrifices without number to insure peace and stability within it.

But no demagogue or any group of them could now deceive the cloakmakers by stretching out to them a velvety hand of "peace" under which a dagger of strife and destruction is concealed. The cloakmakers, furthermore, by this time know that they will get peace, tolerance and stability within their organization only after they had completed the task which they have begun so splendidly a few weeks ago and had cast the remnant of the faithless Communist crew out of their midst.

And the latest Communist manoeuvre will not deceive the general public, the enlightened opinion in our community, either. The public has seen enough of the Communist leadership of the cloakmakers' and dressmakers' organization, during the general strike and before it, to have formed a definite opinion concerning their assassin tactics and their hopelessly erratic methods. The public, too, has come to realize that the Communist invasion of our unions is a curse and an abomination that is bound to lead to their ruin and subsequent total elimination as a factor in industry.

Communist domination of a trade union is a menace to its existence no less threatening than a cancer. It cannot be cured by palliatives or "peace" compromises. It must be cut out root and branch, if the trade union is to survive.



# Educational Work by Trade Unions in Europe

By M. S.

The organization of educational work on its own initiative by a trade union is as a rule a sign of life and energy. When, however, trade unions are well-represented in an energetic national workers' educational centre, the organization of other than vocational education on their own account may be a duplication of the work of the centre, or may cut across it. Usually, therefore, we find that in the countries which have very comprehensive workers' educational centres the trade unions promote education by a hearty support of the Centre, and do not work independently. This is notably the case with Belgium and Sweden; in Belgium it is not the unions, but local and regional educational committees, working under the national centre, which are the centres of educational activity.

In France, too, as there is no national centre for workers' education it is local labor federations which are the chief agents in such educational work as is done. In Britain, trade union educational work is standardized thru the two national bodies, the Workers' Educational Association and the National Council of Labor Colleges, representing respectively the right and left wings of the Labor Movement; these arrange programs which trade unions join on behalf of their members, the union affiliation fee to the workers' educational body, preferred rendering its members eligible to take part (either five or for a very low charge) in the program. In Austria, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Germany, and Switzerland, however, certain unions do educational work on their own account.

In Austria the local railwaymen and tramwaymen do educational work, and the tailors' and dressmakers' union has just published a very comprehensive program for the winter of 1926-27, including the training of union officials, and youth leaders, general trade union education, trade union classes for women, and local branch classes for adults and young workers separately. In Czechoslovakia, in 1925 the metalworkers' union organized at Reimnitz a residential school lasting a fortnight for intensive work. In Denmark landworkers and railwaymen have been most energetic: last year the railwaymen's school in Copenhagen had 62 students, and railwaymen also organize many study circles. In Germany, the metalworkers and the municipal workers take the lead, both having educational secretariats of their own. The former set to work soon after the end of the War to organize intensive three-weeks' courses; these had to be suspended during the inflation period, but now that financial conditions are better, they have established a school of economics of their own at Durrenberg. The Municipal and State Workers' Union chiefly concentrates on training its own officials, which it does through one-week holiday courses, of which 3 were held in 1925, attended by 127 students. The union also has an ambitious winter program, providing for 10 two-week winter schools, the costs of which are to be shared by the union treasury and the local branch concerned. The best students from these schools will later on be given scholarships to the national labor colleges. Independent educational work is also done by several non-manual workers' unions or their local branches. The few unions doing educational work are the workers in public services, the metalworkers and clockmakers' union, the commercial transport and foodworkers' union, and the union of telephone and telegraph employees.

In the case of Switzerland and Den-

mark, the union schemes are submitted to the national workers' educational centre for approval.

## Workers' Education in Belgium

There is no doubt that, in proportion to its size, Belgium has one of the most energetic and best organized workers' educational movements in the world. This is partly due to the well-knit character of Belgium Labor Movement in general, which enables it to avoid the separatism and rivalry which weakens Labor elsewhere. It has had a united national workers' educational centre since 1911, which now represents the Labor Party, the National Trade Union Centre, the Cooperative Centre, and the National Union of Federations of Socialist Friendly Societies. In 1921 a resident Labor College was established at Uccle, near Brussels—a great step forward for a small country to take. During the great flood-tide of trade unionism in 1921-22 large number of Socialist schools were set up (as many as 87 in 1921-22). These have now fallen considerably in number, but there has been a steady growth in the number of lectures.

At this year's congress, however, Troclet of Liege proposed a complete reorganization of the centre: pointing out, for one thing, that the regional committees have gradually expanded their work in many ways, setting up dramatic clubs, etc., which are cultural rather than workers' educational in the narrower sense of the words and urging that the Centre shall similarly widen its competence. The subject is to be reconsidered next year, and is at present being discussed in "Education Recreation", the official journal of the centre. The movement towards a wage culture of the working class, instead of purely doctrinal and utilitarian instruction, is spreading today: it is represented in Germany by the growing tendency to form Labor Cultural Cartels instead of local educational committees.

The Brussels Labor College has recently been commemorating the fifth anniversary of its founding, among the features of the celebrations being an exhibition of the work of ex-students, and the unveiling of a tablet in honor of Matteotti's visit to the school.

## The Beginnings of Workers' Education in Japan

The World Association for Adult Education has recently made a survey of the present position of workers' education in Japan. Although in the public universities the study of social subjects has been repressed with a heavy hand, the government and local authorities are aiding in the general education of the masses, chiefly by vocational schools, but also by a few lectures and adult education courses. More important work is done by voluntary bodies, which have established "free" universities in many towns, where students of all ages and classes may attend lectures for very low prices, and take courses covering three or four years: it is worthy of note that the management rules of these "free" universities are drawn up by a conference of lectures and students. The first of these universities, however, was only founded in 1922, so that this movement is only in its infancy.

But workers' education by the workers is also beginning: in 1921-22 the Japanese Labor Movement opened a few schools, which have now increased to over 26: their aim is to produce a proletarian culture, and they have "a definite propagandist bias", as they desire to "offer equality of educational opportunity to the workers and to raise their cultural

standing". Funds are unfortunately very inadequate, but there is great zeal: the courses have "met with an enthusiastic reception", the difficulty being to find sufficient accommodation for the applicants. The Labor School of Tokyo, run by the Workers' Educational Association under the direction of Suzuki, president of the Japan Federation of Labor, is mostly an evening school to train officials of trade unions and to provide "social education" for

the rank and file. The present number of students is 32: 317 have already passed through the school. Osaka has also a workers' school, opened in 1922, also specially intended for trade unionists: courses may cover 2 or 6 months: 327 students have passed through the school. Social problems, economic history, law, industrial law, economics, etc., are studied in these schools. There are also schools specially intended to promote understanding between employers and employees, but there is no mention of any particular enthusiasm for these schools.

## When Is Intervention Not Intervention

By NORMAN THOMAS

Nations rejoice in the fact that they have the courage to fight each other. When will the time come that they have the courage to trust each other?"

That sentiment from President Coolidge's Trenton speech repudiating desire for a race in armaments does him credit. We can half answer his rhetorical questions. Nations will have the courage to trust each other a little more sincerely when the big nation of which he is President stops threatening Mexico, withdraws its Marines from Nicaragua and its gun boats from Chinese waters where they do not belong.

Since 1911 the United States has meddled incessantly in Nicaraguan affairs. Its meddling has piled up the national debt, increased the cost of living, almost crushed what germs there were of self government. It has brought no corresponding benefits to the natives even by way of habits which are the usual proofs of the blessings of our civilization. It has brought no benefit to the United States. It has cost our taxpayers money. But some few individuals have made wicked profits, and somehow or other, as in other examples of imperialism, they have persuaded a public absorbed in its own affairs that the adventure was necessary, profitable, or even glorious.

Now we are at this meddling business with redoubled energy. American officials forced the resignation of President Chamorro and the quite illegal election of the old American puppet, Diaz. Our State Department promptly recognized him instead of the legitimate President Savosa. An official of the State Department deliberately inspired a cock and bull story of Mexican intervention in Nicaragua under Bolshevik influence. This unproved charge was circulated apparently for the double reason of justifying our own acts in Nicaragua and preparing the public mind for unfriendly acts in Mexico in behalf of the oil investors. More recently Rear Admiral Latimer has lauded Marines, arbitrarily declared a neutral zone in a country which we do not legally own, and clapped on a censorship of dispatches. And Nervous Nellie Kethum has the gall to declare that this is not intervention. If it isn't, in the name of all the dictionaries, what is intervention?

The only hope in the situation is that apparently Coolidge has been frightened out of trying the limit by the unexpected strength of Savosa and the beginning of a decent public opinion in America.

As further proof of the reality of imperialism it has just been announced that a treaty has been signed with Panama by which Panama promises to follow us into war. At least that treaty is honest, which is more than can be said of our dealings with Nicaragua. Everybody knows that the little Republic which Roosevelt created for the sake of getting the Panama Canal would have to follow us into war. Some British papers are making a great fuss because this treaty on Panama's part is inconsistent with its promises as a

member of the League of Nations. They are probably right, but such criticism comes with peculiarly ill grace from British tongues or pens. American imperialism, invoked for the protection of the Panama Canal, is—as yet—less sweeping and far reaching than British imperialism in Egypt for the protection of the Suez Canal. And the United States unlike Great Britain is not a member of the League of Nations. This is no justification of American imperialism but simply for a little less hypocrisy in facing facts.

## Our Blundering Diplomacy in China

It is to be hoped but scarcely expected that our State Department will have learned a lesson from its recent adventures with British diplomacy in China. Under Secretary Kellogg British influence on our policy in China has been excessively great. We have cheerfully tried to pull British chestnuts out of the fire. We landed Marines in Shanghai to interfere in a strike directed primarily against British and Japanese. We reversed our historic policy under British pressure by signing an ultimatum about the Taku forts. We let an American, Sir John Stratten, take the burden of sponsoring a report on extrajurisdictionality which is highly distasteful to Chinese. Then, all of a sudden, the British saw the handwriting on the wall, began friendly negotiations with the Cantonese, or more accurately, the Nationalist forces who already are masters of the larger part of China, and sent our government a highly moral letter about the right policy to follow in China (implying that it needs to set us right). Well, we are glad that the British diplomats have seen a little intervention in China is licensed. Hereafter, we hope, that the United States will follow its own line of friendly cooperation with China seeking the support of all other Powers in that policy but refusing longer to be the dupe of British or any other foreign diplomacy or for that matter the pawn of our own Bourbon business men in the treaty ports.

## UNITY REUNION DANCE

Saturday, Feb. 12th, Lincoln's Birthday, Grand Ballroom of Manhattan Opera House. —Paul Whiteman's Piccadilly Players.

Groups of our members are planning to spend the evening of Lincoln's Birthday on Saturday, February 12th, at our Unity Reunion Dance which will take place in the grand ballroom of the Manhattan Opera House, 74th Street, near 5th Avenue.

Many are wondering whether the hall is large enough for all those who will want to come and live through an evening in the spirit of Unity and dance to the music of the famous Paul Whiteman Piccadilly Players.

Tickets are \$1.00, and may be obtained at the office of our Educational Department, 2 West 14th Street, (Helen 2148).



# EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



## Social Tendencies In Literature

Course Given by B. J. R. Stolper in the Workers' University, Room 530 Washington Irving High School

Lesson 2 Mendele Mochor-Spharim: The Satiric Ancestor of Yiddish Literature

**Mendele**—Mendele Mochor-Spharim (the Bookseller is the pen name of S. J. Abramovitz. Yiddish writers often refer to him affectionately as "the grandfather").

**The Pioneer**—Two remarkable achievements are his. No longer than seventy years ago he created Yiddish as a literary language. At the same time he created the first really great literature in that language. Knowing Hebrew thoroughly, he preferred to write in Yiddish.

**His Outstanding Work**—"Benjamin the Third", a long, good-humored satire of the Jews of the Russian Pale, after the manner of Don Quixote, and quite as shrewd and witty.

**Other Works**—"The Kiyatche" (The Mare), a satire on race with an unusual touch of bitterness in it. "Fiske the Cripple", "The Wishing Ring", "Priziv" (The Army Draft), a drama. "The Little Mannikin". Compact, dramatic tales about Jewish ritual, folk-lore and hidden wonder-workers.

**Translation**—The author translated many of his own works into Hebrew. In addition he resumed writing in Hebrew, after having dropped it for Yiddish. Thereby he quickened the formal Hebrew with the ease and wit of his own Yiddish style.

**Characteristics**—Humor, satire, a racy, idiomatic Yiddish stripped of the artificial "Germanisms" of his time. A love for nature and a love and understanding of his own people even as he satirizes them. Ability to paint unforgettable pictures of people, places and moods. A magic power to make the vanished past live for the reader. Like Turgeniev, the ability to see the real, poetic soul of his own people. Like Anatole France, the power to see his own people as humans, quite apart from their accidents of religion, custom, dress, etc. Finally the precious power to tell a gripping story.

## The Second Term of Our Educational Department

The second term of our Educational Season of 1936-37 will be resumed in Harlem on Wednesday, January 6, in the Bronx on Friday, January 7, and in the Workers' University on Saturday and Sunday, January 8 and 9.

Our members, no doubt, appreciate the fact that despite the difficulties which our International is going through at present, the activities of our Educational Department are being continued without interruption. Our International in doing this is inspired by the belief that Workers' Education is essential to the growth of the Labor movement, principally because it offers the opportunity to our members to express themselves, to become more articulate and to set their minds to thinking. It is most important at all times, and especially now, that workers should be capable of straight thinking, and should not be carried away by light-minded assertions.

The activities which we carried on during the first term were most successful. We are only sorry that we were unable to start the courses planned to be given in our I. L. G. W. U. building. This was impossible

### WORKERS' UNIVERSITY RE-OPENS TO-MORROW, SAT., JANUARY 8

Courses in Workers' University will be resumed to-morrow, Saturday, January 8, at 1:30 p. m. in Room 530 of Washington Irving High School. B. J. R. Stolper will start his course on "Social Tendencies in Literature."

A. J. Maste will give the second part of his course in "Current Events in the Labor and Social World" on Sunday, January 9 at 11 a. m. in the same place.

New students can enroll for these activities now. Admission is free to members of the I. L. G. W. U.

because the classroom was used for other activities of our organization. But we still hope to carry through our program before the end of the second term. We are especially eager to give our courses in "Social Psychology" and "The Economic Basis of Our Modern Civilization", as so many of our members have inquired for them.

Another phase of our activities which has given us much satisfaction is the purchase of books by many of our members this season through the Educational Department at reduced prices. Book reading can only broaden their outlook and give them a more realistic approach to the problems in which they are interested.

We hope the second term of our educational season will be as successful, if not more so, than the first.

### CIVILIZATION IN AMERICA

**COURSE BY H. ROGOFF**  
In Our Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 72  
Beginning Wednesday, January 12, 8:30 P. M.

H. Rogoff will start a course on "Civilization in America" this Wednesday, January 12, 8:30 p. m. in Room 406 of P. S. 72, Lexington Avenue at 105th Street.

To understand the development of the civilization of a country we must have a knowledge of the growth and development of its industries, of its political institutions, social tendencies, and spiritual achievements. The object of this course is to acquaint the student with the cultural development of the United States.

H. Rogoff is an authority on this subject and we are sure his presentation will be interesting and educational. Need we emphasize the importance for our members to understand the American mind, psychology and background, if we are ever to take part in the molding of a new America?

## Weekly Educational Calendar

Washington Irving High School,  
16th Street and Irving Place, Room 530

**Saturday, January 15**

1:30 p. m. B. J. R. Stolper—Social Tendencies in Literature.  
"Yiddish Literature a Lively Invalid."

**Sunday, January 16**

11:00 a. m. A. J. Maste—Current Events in the Labor and Social World.

### EXTENSION DIVISION

McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx

**Friday, January 14**

8:00 a. m. Dr. C. Lieberman—Literature—An Expression of Life.

### EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER

P. S. 25, Room 410, 330 East 5th St.

**Tuesday, January 18**

Subject to be announced.

### HARLEM UNITY CENTER

P. S. 72, Room 406, Lexington Ave. at 105th St.

**Wednesday, January 12**

8:30 p. m. H. Rogoff—Civilization in America.

### PHILADELPHIA, PA.

**Friday, January 14**

Local 50 Headquarters, 52 North 10th St.

7:30 p. m. International English—Alex Cheney

8:30 p. m. Robert Morley—Labor Problems.

### 810 Locust Street

**Wednesday, January 12**

8 p. m. Robert Kerlin—English Literature.

## What To Read

"AMERICAN LABOR AND AMERICAN DEMOCRACY", by Wm. English Walling is just off the press. In this book Mr. Walling takes up the following questions:

### Volume 1

(1) Labor Enters Politics in Its Own Way; (2) Political Results—The First Crop; (3) Labor Turns from Parties to the Public; (4) The Farmer-Labor Entente; (5) A Non-Partisan Progressive Congress; (6) The La Follette Candidacy—A Labor-Progressive; (7) The Non-Partisan Policy Means a Severe Test Successfully; (8) The Non-Partisan Policy in Its Later Developments; (9) Blue Versus Party Government; (10) The Labor Progressive Program: The Appeal to the Consumer; (11) The Labor-Progressive Program—The Appeals to the Consumer and Citizen; (12) Rising Wages as Part of a Social Program.

### Volume 2

(1) Is American Labor Becoming Capitalistic; (2) Labor Cooperates with Capital, but Refuses Combination; (3) Labor Challenges the Domination of Capital; (4) The Social Struggle; (5) Profits—Social and Anti-Social; (6) The Government of Industry; (7) Attempts to Isolate Labor from Government; (8) Labor Demands Its Share in the Benefits of Government; (9) Government Operation Weighed and Found Wanting; (10) The Solution—Social Supervision and Control.

Mr. Walling has been closely in touch with the American labor movement for several years and has made a special study of its aims, principles and policies. We recommend this book to our members irrespective of whether one agrees or disagrees with the author.

This is a Harper Brothers publication and sells for \$3.00. A special paper edition in two volumes has been published by the Workers' Education Bureau, the price of which is \$1.50.

Through our Educational Department our members can obtain this book at a much reduced price.

### LITERATURE AND LIFE

Discussion by Dr. H. Lieberman in the Bronx, Friday, January 7, 8 P. M.

Dr. H. Lieberman will give the second lecture of his course on "Literature and Life" this Friday, January 7 at 8 p. m. in McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road.

In this course Dr. Lieberman will stress the social significance of literature and its connection with our social life. Literature has always been considered the forerunner of every social movement, and also its interpreter.

Each discussion is a unit in itself and will be continued Friday evenings at the same time and place.

### UNITY CENTERS ARE RE-OPENED

The study of English in our Unity Centers was resumed on Monday, January 3. Our members can get instruction in elementary, intermediate and advanced English. Classes are held three nights weekly: Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

### EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN PHILADELPHIA

Several courses have been arranged for our members in Philadelphia. On Friday nights at 7:30 p. m. Bertha Gruenberg conducts classes in intermediate and advanced English at the headquarters of Local 50, 52 North 10th Street. At 8:30 p. m. in the same place Robert Morley gives a course in Labor Problems.

Wednesday nights at 8 p. m. Robert Kerlin lectures on English Literature at the Labor Institute, 810 Locust Street.

For information apply to Ada Rosenfeld, 52 North 10th Street or Bertha Stein, 810 Locust Street.



Wszystkich członków pro-  
sza przybyć punktualnie.  
A. E. Saulicz, Sekr.

# The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

The past two weeks have seen the International proceeding with the reorganization of the union internally and carrying on negotiations with employers in a manner that materially contrasts with the deposed leadership of the Communists.

## New Joint Board Installed

On Monday night, January 3, the new Joint Board was installed under the chairmanship of President Morris Sigman in Beethove Hall, at which were present delegates of all of the local unions, including the reorganized locals. In response to the invitation of the International, the executive boards of these local unions were also present.

The contrast above mentioned was especially noticeable in the reports of the various committees, which concerned themselves solely with the question of reorganizing the union on the basis of the principles for which it was originally organized. The motives that prompted the leaders of the International union in the course of their work was in strict accord with the aims of the union. No fear of having any of the decisions over-ruled by an outside force motivated the final outcome.

This was the theme of the address by President Sigman following the installation of the Joint Board, a complete report of which will be found elsewhere in this issue. The meeting was permeated by a feeling of wholehearted trust and enthusiasm. Politics did not play any part; the candidates selected were elected by acclamation, and the only thing that seemed to be the desire of the delegates was to waste as little time as possible on politics and proceed to work along the same sound lines that marked the activities of the organization in the past few weeks since the International took the situation in hand.

## Membership Responds to International's Call

In the meantime, the registration of the members of the reorganized locals is proceeding in a manner that prompted President Sigman to say at the Joint Board installation that the members are showing in no uncertain way their abhorrence of further Communist intrigues. The representative shops in the dress industry are renewing their agreements with the International, and the overwhelming majority of the workers of these large shops are making known in very clear terms their desire to stand by the International union.

How thoroughly disgusted the members are with Communist tactics is daily manifested by mass meetings of workers not only of the New York City locals but in outlying districts as well. That the members of Local 10 had taken the lead in this regard, when two thousand of them crowded Cooper Union on December 27th to see the officers for 1937 installed and adopted at the same meeting by a rising vote a resolution pledging loyalty and aid to the International and Local 10, is common knowledge by this time.

This resolution was printed in "Justice" last week, but due to lack of space it was not printed on this page. As some members may have missed it, and inasmuch as it contains the policies as laid down by the members at the Cooper Union meeting, it is reprinted on this page in one of the adjoining columns.

In connection with the response of the members to the support of the International, it will be interesting to recall two incidents which give the lie to the assertions by the deposed Communist leaders that the membership is not loyal to the International.

These are the two remarkably well-attended meetings addressed by Manager Dubinsky, one of which was held in the headquarters of the Italian Cloakmakers' Building at 231 East 14th Street, and the other at the Boardwalk Hotel, at 3023 West 22nd Street, Coney Island.

## Meetings Called by "Lefts" Ignored

Dubinsky reported on these meetings at last Monday night's Joint Board meeting. He told the delegates that meetings were frequently called by a group of so-called "lefts", members of the International residing in the Coney Island section. The usual modus operandi would be indulged in and lies about the International and its officers spread.

A group of trade unionists, however, members of the International, felt that these meetings of the "lefts" were not expressive of the true sentiment of the members living in Coney Island. They arranged therefore an open forum under the auspices of the Trade Union Group of Cloakmakers at the Boardwalk Hotel, last Sunday, January 2, at two o'clock, and invited Manager Dubinsky to speak on the present situation of the union. Cutters were also invited to attend, as was announced in a notice on this page in the last issue.

Several hundred members were present at the meeting listening to the address by the manager of Local 10. The meeting lasted for four hours, and at its conclusion a resolution pledging support to the International was adopted with one dissenting vote.

The Communists, upon learning of the calling of the meeting by the Trade Union group, attempted to disrupt the meeting of the International members by calling a meeting of their own. They announced as the chief speaker of that meeting one of their cohorts who is notorious as an acrobatic phrase-monger. But, as only about a score of persons appeared at the "left" meeting, the Communists were compelled to close their meeting and advised those present to go to the meeting of the trade unionists apparently in an attempt to break it up. How successful they were in this has already been mentioned.

The meeting addressed by Dubinsky in the Italian Cloakmakers' building was that of the Examiners' Local No. 82. This local was also at one time the victim of the Communist delirium. In the famous "left" industrial program, presented in the form of demands to the Industrial Council, the examiners were promised a heaven on earth. Of course, this phase of the Communist program was about as successful as all of their other undertakings, for when the agreement with the Industrial Council was finally concluded the examiners declared that they would be satisfied if they could retain the agreement the old clause referring to them in the expired agreement.

However, the deposed leaders of the defunct Joint Board labored under the delusion that they would receive the support of the examiners at all costs. They therefore called a meeting in an effort to retain their hold on this body of workers. The manager of Local 82, Brother Rosenblatt, learned of this proposed meeting and countered by calling them to a meeting under the auspices of the local.

This meeting was addressed by Dubinsky and was attended by more than half of the membership of Local 82. At the conclusion of the address there was no doubt in the minds of the officers of the International as to where the examiners stood.

## International Warns Against Fake Bonds

As to Communist activities during the week, they concerned themselves with their usual lying propaganda, the aim of which is further chaos in the union. Having sent the cloakmakers back to work in the shops of the contractors without an agreement and being unable to accomplish a settlement with the jobbers, they are now centering their activities on fake "peace" overtures, fake "impartial" election schemes and bond-selling.

As regards the floating of the bonds, the International last week warned its members against purchasing them. This warning is contained in a letter sent out to the cloak and dressmakers all over the country, notifying them that these bonds are being sold under false pretenses. The letter of the International follows:

"It has come to the attention of the International Office that the deposed Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union in New York, which led the recent general strike in the New York cloak market with such disastrous results for the cloakmakers and for the Union, that the International Office felt duty-bound to take it over, is now sending out bonds to the various International locals throughout the country under the pretense that the money is to aid the New York cloak strike.

"This bond issue was never authorized by the International and the purpose for which it is being floated is entirely false. The strike in the New York cloak market is now practically over, and whatever remnant of it still continues, is being taken care of by the International office. We would ask you therefore to ignore the request to purchase these bonds."

Messrs. M. Castrell, S. Siegel, M. Steinberg and Dr. Glauberman, declared President Sigman, "have been announced as envoys to the various trade unions to obtain funds for a fake bond issue. These gentlemen have solicited funds for every communist activity in this country from the time of the Friends of Soviet Russia down to the present. These men are as little cloakmakers as the National Executive Committee of the Communist Party."

The peace overtures of the Communists through some emissaries of a group of supporters of leaders who have all but ruined the union. They were elected at a meeting packed by the "lefts" and were chosen only because they were sure to support the deposed leaders.

For a number of weeks the "lefts" have been prating about an "impartial" election and have used the name of the American Civil Liberties Union in this connection. Arthur Garfield Hays, prominent attorney and influential member of the American Civil Liberties Union's executive board, however, has assured President Morris Sigman of the International that his organization will not countenance the use of its name in connection with the so-called "impartial elections."

## International Active in Establishing Order

Following the settlement with the American Association, the contractors in the cloak industry, the International, through President Morris Sigman, has been active during the past few weeks, with the work of rebuilding the union and bringing order out of the chaos created by the Communists while they have been running our organization during the past year and a half.

Had it not been for the deposed leaders of the Joint Board who advised three weeks ago the cloakmakers to return to the shops in a scramble without a settlement with the cloak contractors, an agreement with the cloak jobbers could have been signed by this time. However, the leadership of the International union has the situation

## RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY MEMBERS OF LOCAL 10 AT COOPER UNION ON DEC. 27, 1936

WHEREAS, the deposed leaders of the Joint Board, acting under the orders of the Communist Party, had plunged the cloak industry into a ruinous and brutally mismanaged strike, which all but destroyed the great cloakmakers' organization in New York and engulfed our members in despair and misery, and

WHEREAS, in order to rescue our Union from the grasp of an outside political clique and to repair the damage caused by its misconduct of the ill-fated strike, the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. had, in a declaration issued on December 13, 1936, assumed full leadership and control over the cloak and dress locals affiliated with the Joint Board and over the strike with the aim in view toward bringing it to a satisfactory liquidation and to eliminate Communist Party control from it, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Amalgamated Ladies' Garment Cutters' Union, Local No. 10, in meeting assembled on Monday, December 27, 1936, in Cooper Union, New York City, do hereby pledge our full support to the International in its present great effort to rebuild our Union and to bring it back to its former prestige and standing as a true defender of the economic interests of our workers and to put an end to the dishonest exploitation of our workers by the Communist politicians, and be it further

RESOLVED, that we delegate full power to the incoming executive board to enforce all disciplinary measures against individuals or groups in our local, who would give any assistance to or take instructions from any group or element disloyal to our organization tending to obstruct the work of rehabilitation of our Union under taken by the International.

now in good hand and steps are proceeding in the direction of a settlement.

The same activities characterize the International with regard to the dress industry. Under ordinary circumstances, had the policies of the International prevailed, the cloak situation would have been completely settled months ago and the union could have gone ahead to face the problems in the dress trade.

Nevertheless, despite the chaos created by the Communists and despite their attempts to befog the minds of the members with meaningless issues and slanderous propaganda, the International is gradually reestablishing order and is hopeful, before long, to place the union well on the way to health and sound industrial conditions.

The cloak cutters are reminded that their increase of \$3 went into effect this past Monday, January 3. Their pay envelope for the end of this week must contain \$3 extra if their wages are less than \$60 per week. This applies to all of the cloak cutters. Any one not receiving an extra \$3 in his pay should report it to the office of Local 10.

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